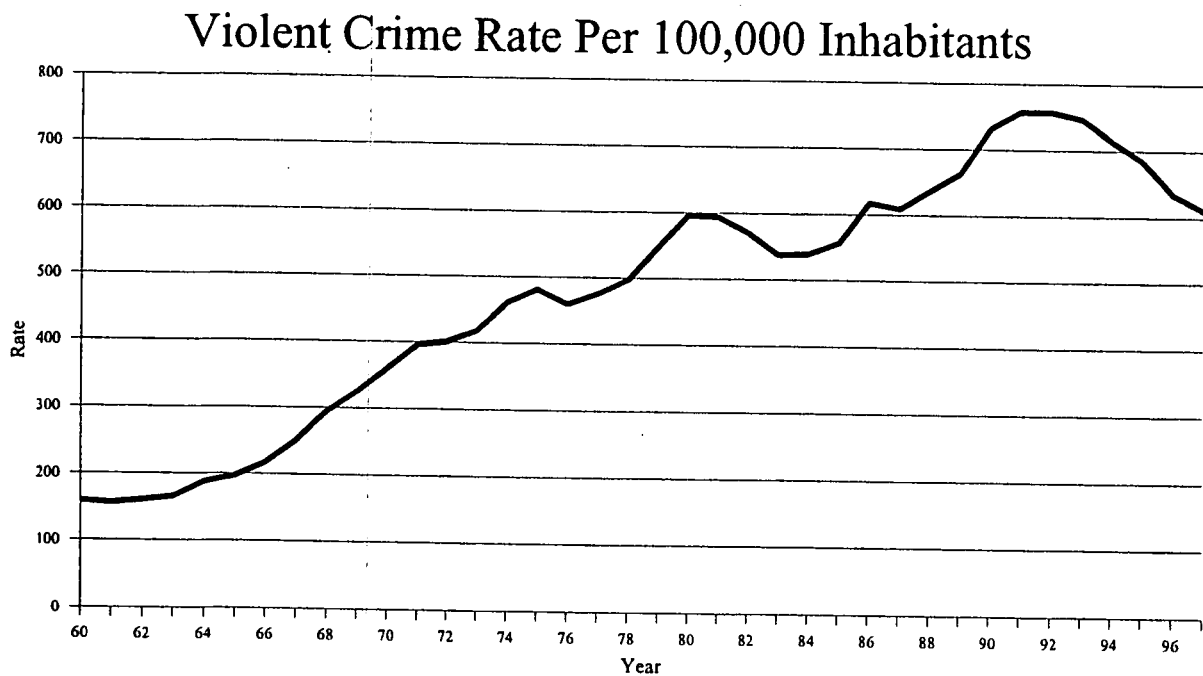


February 11, 1999

CRIME and JUVENILE CRIME POLICY POINTS

- **Crime Rates Are Still Too High** — While in the last few years the violent crime rate has declined, it remains at levels that are far too high.
 - In 1960, 159 violent crimes per 100,000 inhabitants were reported; in 1997, 611 were reported. In short, violent crime has quadrupled since 1960.



RPC Chart based on data from F.B.I. Uniform Crime Reports

"Violent Crime" means offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault that were reported to police.

- **The problem of juvenile crime is especially severe and troubling** — In 1997, persons under the age of 18 committed
 - 14 percent of all murders,
 - 17 percent of all rapes, and
 - 30 percent of all robberies.

- Young people ages 15 through 19 are 7 percent of the population, but in 1997 they committed
 - 21 percent of all violent crimes and
 - 32 percent of all property crimes.

- **Republicans Plan to Attack Juvenile Crime** — This Congress, Republicans will attack juvenile crime, and one of our best weapons is S. 254, the Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act of 1999. The bill:
 - Reforms the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. It strengthens the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) by requiring annual plans with measurable goals. Additionally, OJJDP will serve as a single point of contact for States, localities, and private entities for federal assistance and coordination;
 - Consolidates numerous juvenile justice programs;
 - Reauthorizes and strengthens especially effective programs (such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, gang prevention programs, and mentoring programs);
 - Encourages state programs to provide accountability in their juvenile justice systems;
 - Provides the first federal incentives for integrating into the national criminal history database those juvenile records that involve serious criminal offenses, together with federal funding for the system; and
 - Recognizes the value of education in preventing juvenile crime and in rehabilitating juvenile offenders, and it provides a 3-year \$45 million demonstration project to provide alternative education to juveniles in trouble with the law or at risk of getting in trouble.

- **Law enforcement and victims organizations support this needed reform plan** — S. 254 is substantially the same as a bill from last Congress that was supported by the Fraternal Order of Police, the National Sheriffs Association, the National Troopers Coalition, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National Victims Center, and the National Organization for Victims Assistance.

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